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Message Text

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14
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W
---------- 040884
O P 280948 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8195

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 1918
EXDIS
E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, TW, VS
SUBJECT: ROC MEDICAL TEAMS IN VIETNAM
REFS: A. SAIGON 5025 B. TAIPEI 792

1. EMBOFF RAISED PROBLEM OF ROC MEDICAL TEAM WITH CHOU TUN-

HUA, DIRECTOR OF EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS,
IN MOFA. HE INFORMED CHOU THAT WE UNDERSTOOD THAT ROC
TEAM IN PHAN THIET WAS COMPOSED OF MILITARY DOCTORS. IF
THIS WERE THE CASE, WE BELIEVED THAT THE TEAM SHOULD BE
WITHDRAWN IMMEDIATELY FROM THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM,
SINCE ITS CONTINUED PRESENCE WOULD CONSTITUTE A CLEAR
VIOLATION OF THE CEASE- FIRE AGREEMENT. CHOU REPLIED THAT
HE WAS UNINFORMED ON THE PERSONNEL OF THE TEAM BUT THAT
HE WOULD REPORT TO HIS VICE MINISTER AND ASK THE
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE FOR STATUS OF TEAM' S PERSONNEL.
HE SAID THAT IF THE TEAM WERE IN FACT MILITARY, HE SAW
NO REASON WHY THEY SHOULD NOT BE WITHDRAWN, BUT DOUBTED
THAT THEY COULD LEAVE THE RVN PRIOR TO END OF MARCH 28.
HE ASKED A) IF NVN OR PRG HAD RAISED PROBLEM AND B) IF
EMBASSY SAIGON HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH GVN. EMBOFF
REPLIED THAT HE WAS NOT INFORMED ON EITHER SUBJECT.

2. CHOU SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THAT NATIONAL REHABILITA-
TION INSTITUTE TEAM FURNISHED BY RETIRED SERVICEMEN' S
ORGANIZATION WAS IN FACT CIVILIAN, BUT SAID THAT HE WOULD
CHECK ON THE STATUS OF ITS PERSONNEL.
MCCONAUGHY

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NOTE BY OC/ T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/ S- O, MR. KURZE.

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